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of heaven than it possessed before the Reformation of the sixteenth century.—FRANKLIN JOHNSON.

The Growing Revelation. By Amory H. Bradford. (New York : The Macmillan Company, 1897 ; pp. 254 ; \$1.50.) These sermons were preached by the Montclair pastor, first in his own pulpit and then in various churches in England. They are warm, vital, intensely modern, and constitute an excellent example of "the theology that can be preached." Revelation, to Dr. Bradford, is by no means confined to the Scriptures, still less is it voiced in historic creeds ; it appears to be nearly coincident with "the spiritual development of the world." The texts chosen are often simply "mottoes," and the last sermon has no text. Perhaps a friendly critic might point out a source of weakness here — as when the preacher, discoursing from the text, "Stand fast in the faith," says : "Without seeking to analyze what Paul here meant by 'the faith,' observe certain truths," etc. Again, he enlarges on the idea that Christ is "the desire of all nations," as if unconscious of any mistranslation.

But the sermons are admirable in their charity, catholicity, and sympathy with the life of today. They deal with many deep problems on which they do not hesitate to avow a Christian agnosticism. "How long will God allow the processes of retribution to go on ? This mystery also is in the Father's hands." "Concerning the relation of the death of Christ to the deity and the moral order, speculation has been common and useless." Intent on practical ends, the writer refuses to lose himself in the abstract. The "modern" quality of the sermons is seen in the constant reference to the results of comparative religion, and to the amelioration of the social order. Their progressive character comes out thus : "Religion can no more be expressed in the terms of the Westminster confession than astronomy in Ptolemaic language." To the traditionalist such a volume will seem nebulous for want of definition ; to men who are seeking to hold the truth, while admitting constant change in its formulation, this book will bring help. — W. H. P. FAUNCE.

WE HAVE received from the publishers, Richard Mühlmann's Verlag (Max Grosse), Halle, a. S., the third edition of *Christblumen*, eine Sammlung von Ansprachen zu den Christvespern gehalten in der St. Laurentius-Kirche von D. H. Hoffmann, 1897 ; 79 pp., 16mo ; bound, M. 1.20. The author is a well-known minister in the university town of Halle, who, though aged, is still praising his Master and working in

his cause. They are not real sermons, but rather talks to his congregation during Christmas vespers — no stereotyped phraseology, but rather the outpouring of a pious heart ; the word of a favored witness of Christ, possessing a rare gift of preaching alike to the young and the old, the learned and the simple, the rich and the poor, the noble and the humble. We welcome the gift.— The same firm has published in four parts K. Frank's *Weide meine Lämmer*: Die hl. Geschichte der Jugend erzählt und erklärt in 120 Kinderpredigten, 1897 ; pp. viii + 336, 8vo ; M. 4. The book is a collection of sermonettes and addresses to children, none over three pages in length. The sentences are short, the language precise, the style concise ; the ideas adapted to the minds of children ; the whole an excellent manual for the instruction of children. The author treats the Old Testament from the creation narrative to the restoration of the Jewish kingdom (Ezra 1 : 1-8 ; 3 : 8-6: 10 ; Hag. 2 : 1-10 ; Zech. 9 : 9 ; Mal. 3 : 1) in seventy-two addresses. Forty-eight are devoted to the New Testament history, as found in the gospels and the Acts of the Apostles. To German-speaking congregations, pastors, and Sunday-school teachers this book may be heartily commended.— The late D. Friedrich Ahlfeld, the famous Leipzig pastor, is by no means forgotten by those who admired and revered him, during his lifetime, as one of Germany's best representatives and most influential ministers. His published sermons and other works are found on the shelves of almost every German-speaking minister here and in the fatherland. From the collected works of his father Dr. Heinrich Ahlfeld gathered, in 1882, the collects and short summaries, consisting of text, brief interpretation, prayer, and hymn. Since 1882 this book (*Morgenandachten*, Halle, a. S., Richard Mühlmann's Verlag, 1897 ; pp. viii + 452, 8vo ; M. 4) has gone through four editions, and has thus proved its value in closet and pulpit. These collects cover each about a page ; the language is noble and refined ; the sentences short and concise, breathing a truly religious spirit ; the prayers simple and true.— The same firm has published the second edition of H. Hoffmann's *Kreuz und Krone*. Ein Jahrgang Predigten, meistens über freie Texte ; 1897 ; pp. x + 397, 8vo ; M. 5. It is a volume of excellent sermons, a continuation of the author's *Unterm Kreuz* and *Eins ist Not*. They are short, averaging about five and one-half pages, of which one-half of a page is taken up by the text. German ministers and preachers have learned now the enhanced value of short sermons written in short sentences, simple style, and noble, choice language.— W. MUSS-ARNOLT.